

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1, 3-11, 13-15, and 17 are pending in this application. Claims 2, 8, 12, and 16 are canceled. Claims 1 and 14 are independent and are amended.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claim for Priority

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging his claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document.

Acknowledgement of Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner has acknowledged receipt of the Information Disclosure Statement filed November 27, 2000, and has returned an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449. No further action is necessary at this time.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because FIGS. 1 and 2 are not designated by a legend such as "prior art." Included with the accompanying Letter to the Official Draftsperson are proposed changes to FIGS. 1 and 2 labeling these

drawings as "BACKGROUND ART." Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)/§ 103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 10, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by the so-called "admitted prior art" (APA), and claims 3-7, 9, 11, 12, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the APA. In addition, claims 8, 13, and 17 are rejected as being unpatentable over the APA in view of JP 5-323324 to Katsuto and U.S. Patent No. 5,954,999 to Mishina et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, claims 2, 8, and 12 have been canceled, and independent claim 1 has been amended to include the canceled limitations of claims 2, 8, and 12. Furthermore, claim 16 has been canceled, and independent claim 14 has been amended to include the canceled limitations of claim 16.

The related art merely teaches an LCD that includes upper and lower substrates, a liquid crystal layer between the two substrates, and upper and lower alignment layers coated on the inner surfaces of the upper and lower substrates, wherein the liquid crystal cell is heated at a temperature higher than a pneumatic, isotropic transition temperature. See the discussion at page 2, line 19, through page 3, line 12, of the present specification.

Applicant's disclosed art does not teach combinations of steps as set forth in amended claims 1 and 14, including heating a liquid crystal cell, wherein the heating step is performed at a temperature that is greater than about 10°C above the nematic-isotropic transition temperature.

In the present invention, to repair the abnormal alignment directions caused by the impurity, the liquid crystal cell *in which the liquid crystal is injected* is heated to a temperature that is greater than about 10°C above the nematic-isotropic transition temperature. By contrast, in Applicant's disclosed art, to prevent the image of the flow of the liquid crystal from being fixed in the liquid crystal layer, a liquid crystal cell in which the liquid crystal is not injected is heated when the liquid crystal is injected into the liquid crystal cell. See page 3, lines 1-12.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims are respectfully requested. Independent claims 1 and 14 should be in condition for allowance. Since the remaining claims depend either directly or indirectly from allowable independent claims 1 and 14, they should also be allowable for at least the reasons set forth above, as well as for the additional limitations provided by these claims. Accordingly, all pending claims should be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Since the remaining patent cited by the Examiner has not been utilized to reject claims, but merely to show the state of the art, no comment need be made with respect thereto.

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

However, if any issues remain, the is invited to telephone Sam Bhattacharya, Reg. No. 48,107, at (703) 205-8000 in an effort to expedite prosecution.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDMENTS

Please cancel claims 2-7, 11, and 13 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1 and 14 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of manufacturing a liquid crystal display comprising the steps of:

forming a liquid crystal cell[; and] including the steps of:

providing an upper substrate and a lower substrate;

forming an alignment layer on at least one of the upper and lower substrates;

forming a sealant on at least one of the upper and lower substrates;

laminating the upper and lower substrates; and

injecting a liquid crystal layer between the two substrates;

heating the liquid crystal cell, wherein the heating step is performed at a temperature that is greater than about 10°C above a nematic-isotropic transition temperature; and

quickly cooling the liquid crystal cell.

14. (Amended) A method of manufacturing a liquid crystal display comprising the steps of:

forming a liquid crystal cell including the steps of:

providing an upper substrate and a lower substrate;

forming an alignment layer on at least one of the upper and lower substrates;

forming a sealant on at least one of the upper and lower substrates;

laminating the upper and lower substrates;

injecting a liquid crystal layer between the [two] upper and lower substrates; and

heating the liquid crystal cell, wherein the heating step is performed at a temperature that is greater than about 10°C above a nematic-isotropic transition temperature.